

AUSTRALIAN

UFO

BULLETIN



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MORE REPORTS FROM NORTHERN VICTORIA

by Paul Norman

March 17, 1978:

George Snowling and family reported an object near Wangaratta. When first noted, the object was a glowing red ball, after which it changed to a cone shape, and then changed into a cup shape. Soon afterwards, it increased in redness and intensity, then disappeared as if someone had switched off the light.

The eerie experience began when Mrs. Snowling called George to the back yard at 9.55 p.m. She told him to "get your overalls on as it looks like a fire". George and his wife and 14 year old son observed the object. Peter O'Driscoll also watched the UFO. There were no flames visible, and it could not have been a fire, as it moved in a northerly direction.

During the next 10 minutes the object changed from a cone shape and then to cup shape. At this time it seemed to get redder in colour and then it was gone. The observers were also puzzled why the family pet dog was unusually restless during the time of the sighting. After the object disappeared the dog became normal again.

J. D. Roberts, on whose property the object appeared, was much closer to the UFO. He gave the same description of the colours, and said it moved to the north along the top of a ridge. He thought at first it was a car, but no road was located on the ridge. His dogs were barking furiously before the object disappeared.

April 1, 1978:

A prominent Victorian businessman and his wife were spending the weekend at their holiday house in the Border District near Albury. The witness desires to remain anonymous because of the adverse effect publicity could have on his business.

At about 7.30 p.m. he went outside to turn on his water pump. His two guard dogs, which would normally attack anything, suddenly tucked their tails between their legs and rushed back whimpering into the house. The man looked around and noticed a cigar shaped object within 100 yards which he thought was on the ground. He rushed into the house to get his binoculars and noted that the object was hovering slightly above the ground. He also noted along the object's side were well lighted square windows. His wife came to the door, took one look, and went back inside. She indicated her desire to pack up and get out.

The object remained stationary for about 20 minutes. The lights then went out. After the moon came up the man made an inspection of the area and the object was nowhere to be seen.

A smell similar to burnt gunpowder remained after the object was gone. The gentleman experienced severe headaches for about two months afterwards.

VICTORIAN PRESS ITEMSNewstead Ground Circles (See report on the Leathbridge sightings, Bulletin, Feb., 1978)

...The event has obviously excited a lot of interest, and in all fairness to the property owner, the location of the marks could not be published as he would find a worry from sightseers. The ground was not burnt. All shades of the area within the circle were darker than that outside. The soil was darker, the dry grass was darker, the green grass was darker. It was tested for radioactive content but no readings were found.... One last point found with the marks at Newstead was that all four circles were not exactly circular - one had indentations on one portion of the edge.

- Castlemaine Mail, 15/3/1978.

Lights Over The Grampians

UFOs have been sighted in the Dunkeld area in the past two weeks. There have been at least four reported sightings in the fortnight.

Hamilton Social Security Department officer, Mr. Les Becker, who lives at Dunkeld, said his boarder had seen two lights above Mount Sturgeon. He had reported the lights had moved across the sky and could not be confused with stars.

Then about a week ago, Mr. Becker said he had been looking across at the mountains and watched as a stationary light above the mountain went straight up in the air and disappeared.

"The next night my daughter was returning from the shop and was walking up the rise from a gully", he said. "As she came up the rise she saw Mount Abrupt was lit up like a neon light. She said a circular object with red lights flashing on it had flown a horizontal course between Mounts Sturgeon and Abrupt. She said it lit up the whole side of Mt. Abrupt before disappearing from view". Mr. Becker said his daughter reported the object moved slowly up in the air and disappeared, and because of the direction of its flight could not have been a satellite.

Intrigued by the sightings, Mr. Becker decided he would take a closer look a few nights later. He said he had gone up on Mt. Abrupt one night and waited for about two hours, hoping for a closer view of the airborne phenomena. He had seen nothing and went home. By the time he reached his home he looked back towards the mountain and again saw a bright light. This time the lights had disappeared down behind the mountain, but at a much faster rate than the normal setting of stars, he said....

- Hamilton Spectator, 29/4/1978.

Flying Cigar Over Yarra Valley

Two Castella St. residents claimed last Friday that they saw an unidentified flying object over Lilydale and Yarra Glen the previous night. Mrs. Judy Ver Hagen and Mr. Les Lord were travelling from Bayswater when they sighted the object soaring across the sky at an "incredible speed". . . .

"It was shaped like a cigar and was coming from the mountains over Healesville", Mrs. Ver Hagen said. "After passing over the top of our vehicle, it rocketed towards Lilydale Airport and before you could click your fingers, it was miles away". It appeared to be over Melbourne city, she said. "It then zig-zagged towards Healesville again, hovered above Yarra Glen for about 20 seconds and took off in the direction of the mountains, where it first came from". Mrs. Ver Hagen said she and Mr. Lord had a clear look at the UFO while it was over Yarra Glen. "It was coloured blue in the centre and white at each end. One end was thicker than the other. No plane could possibly move as fast as this did"....

- Yarra Valley News, 7/6/1978.

(Mrs. Ver Hagen could not be located by Society investigators. Mr. Lord was interviewed, who said that he had not had as clear an observation of the object as the other witness. He verified the description given in the press but could not add any further details)

Lights at Eddington

A driver and his passenger have reported sighting an UFO in the sky when approaching the S - bend at Eddington at about 7.40 on Wednesday night. The object appeared in the form of white and red lights which hovered over the trees and then slowly moved away. The two men got out of the car and viewed the object for about five minutes.

- Maryborough Advertiser, 23/6/1978.

RESIGNATION OF THE PRESIDENT

The Society's President, Mr. Peter Norris, has tendered his resignation from the Committee. A co-founder of the Society, Mr. Norris has completed an unbroken period of 21 years as President. It is largely due to his efforts that the Society has become well known and respected throughout the world. Due to pressure of business and personal reasons, Mr. Norris is no longer able to continue in office.

The Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Vic. Branch) was formed on February 17th, 1957 as a branch of the Australian Flying Saucer Research Society, which was based in Adelaide, and later that year it was reorganised as the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society, with Mr. Peter E. Norris, L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered - this time to the Victorian UFO Research Society.

During this time the Society has published various papers and magazines, and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

The Society, under the direction of Mr. Norris, has held an objective view on UFOs, stating this subject is a scientific problem deserving of closer attention, and these comments have been echoed on numerous TV programs over the years. It has also met regularly, and, until recently, maintained the largest UFO library in the Southern hemisphere, making books available by post to members throughout the Commonwealth.

With Mr. Norris at its head, the Society assisted in arranging tours for George Adamski - that controversial figure of early UFO interest - in 1959; Professor James McDonald in 1967 - sponsored by the U.S. Navy to investigate UFOs; more recently Dr. J. Allen Hynek in 1973, who came out for an astronomical conference, and whose tour to various sighting areas, including New Guinea, was sponsored by Australia's various UFO societies. Dr. Hynek also met here in Melbourne with Father Gill, whose sighting was considered a milestone in UFO investigation.

Peter Norris will be remembered for his contributions to many leading UFO authors throughout the world, and for his part in building up the largest and most reputable UFO organisation in the southern hemisphere.

The Committee and members are proud to have been associated with him for his excellent leadership, and we extend to him our best wishes for good health and success in the future.

- Judy Magee.

COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

Results of the election for Committee positions, announced at the Annual General Meeting on August 11:

President - Judith Magee

Vice President - Paul Norman

Secretary - Agnes Briggs

Treasurer - Clive Yates

Committee members:

Les Bristol

Rodney Marrow

Ian Scott

Jock Bell

Douglas Mummery

INTERSTATE REPORTSBuckland, Tas., July 18, 1977:

A farmer's son was out shooting at 2.30 a.m. when he noticed a semicircle of 6 or 8 lights at a 45 degree angle in the sky. The lights were flashing a pink/red colour, except for two steady lights positioned at the base of the semicircle. The lights were at 200 metres elevation and estimated to cover an area of 200 metres. The witness walked beneath the lights and could see that the stars were blocked out by something inside the semicircle of lights. Each individual light looked to be 3 to 5 metres wide. The witness then moved on but kept the lights under view as he recommenced his shooting. Eventually he moved off home and last saw the lights through the trees in their original position.

- TUFOIC Newsletter, May, 1978.

Niemur River, N.S.W., Sep. 30, 1977:

Ron Dunn, John Wilson, and John's 11 year old son had intentions of staying overnight at their favourite fishing spot on the Niemur River, N.S.W. When they arrived late in the afternoon they noticed something peculiar under the water. The object cast a shadow on the opposite 20 foot high bank. Nearby they saw a new fish net stretched across the river. When they raised the net up they discovered a large hole in the new net - large enough for a Mini Minor to pass through.

After dark when they commenced fishing, an object was noticed on the opposite bank, just above where the under-water object was first noted. The object was described as being cylindrical in shape, with a red light in the centre, two yellow lights on the upper right hand side, and a glowing white beam shining out the top.

By this time they were becoming more concerned. Finally, Ron shouted out for a reply. There was no sound. Ron then threatened to shoot. Still no reply. Ron then aimed his 410 shotgun to deliberately miss and fired. There was still no noise. After a third last warning, John took the gun and fired directly at the object.

John said it was like shooting into the windings of a transformer - there were sparks and a flash of light or arc, after which the other lights went out.

What would happen now? They did not have long to wait. The lights came back on as before. Decision followed immediately - they broke camp and fled the area.

Man's natural reaction to the unknown.

- report by Paul Norman.

Athelstone, S.A., Dec. 24, 1977:

..."I was awakened in the early hours of the morning (0225) by the barking of our dogs, and some of the neighbour's dogs also. Ours is an upstairs bedroom, and we had the door open. I saw this object travelling in a NE direction. It was shaped like an ordinary cake tin with the air beating around it like the blades of a fan. The pulsating air would have been half the size of the object. It appeared to be the colour of a pearl fluorescent tube. Not being certain of what I had seen, I went out on to the balcony, and it disappeared into the clouds. The moon came out after this had gone, but it was much higher in the sky, and a different colour. All this must have taken 3 - 4 minutes."

- UFO Research, S.A.

Lismore, N.S.W., Jan. 19, 1978:

A single witness observed a large circular object hovering in the sky near his home at 11.50 p.m. The witness described seeing "square windows" on the outer rim of the object and hearing a "beeping" sound which apparently emanated from it. The UFO, estimated to be 10 to 13 metres in diameter, appeared in a break in a thick cloud, and after about 15 seconds "shot straight up" and disappeared into the clouds. (Still under inv. by UFO Research, NSW.)

Granton, Tas., Feb. 18, 1978:

At 10.15 a.m. two witnesses were travelling in a car going north at Granton, then through Bridgewater. The passenger first noticed two spherical metallic objects stationary in the northern sky. The two objects then started moving east. The witnesses were surprised when the object just disappeared in a clear sunlit sky. Then they soon reappeared, more disc shaped, and brown in colour. The sighting became even more puzzling when the objects reverted back to their original appearance. After moving apart and closing together again, the objects were last seen just after Bridgewater as they sped up and went away over hills to the north...No air traffic on flight path reported...The witnesses saw a light plane later and said it bore no resemblance to the objects.

- TUFOIC Newsletter, May, 1978.

Bowna, N.S.W., Mar. 30, 1978: (Further details on this case, which was reported in the May Bulletin - report by Paul Norman.)

Since the two young farmers were mustering sheep, and the news account made no mention of the reaction of the sheep, Pat Gildea and I decided to interview the witnesses. We learned that the news account was accurate, and that the sheep stood motionless in their tracks as they watched the large UFO, which was estimated to be about one mile away. This is a somewhat different reaction to animal reactions when UFOs are nearer. The sheep dogs at the same time stood motionless in the ute watching the object in silence.

ERRATUM - In the May Bulletin report of the Tasmanian Seven Mile Beach sighting (p. 2) the date was incorrectly given. The correct date is Feb. 3, 1977.

Dayborough, Qld., Apr. 7, 1978:

A hunter was travelling along a lonely stretch of road in the Dayborough area when he had what he believed to be a possible encounter with UFO occupants. It must be stressed that it is only 'possible' because there was no craft or object sighted.

Mr. K. (name withheld) was returning from a shooting trip when, at about 5.30 p.m. on the 7th April 1978, his car became bogged in mud. There had been heavy rain in the area. Upon getting out of the vehicle to inspect the situation, Mr. K. glimpsed what appeared to be two figures walking in a field on his left about 100 yards away. At first it occurred to him that he might be able to summon some aid. However, he thought it a little strange that anyone might be roaming about in the bush, wearing what appeared to be white jump suits.

Taking out his rifle, Mr. K. took a closer look through the telescopic sights (3x9). What he saw sent a tingle up his spine. The figures were very human in appearance, but about four feet in height, and were dressed from neck to feet in white uniform garb.

Somewhat shaken, Mr. K. jumped back into the car and tried to restart the engine - with no success. Getting out again, he took another look in the direction of the beings and became even more frightened to find that his attempts to restart the motor had been heard by them, and they were now staring in his direction. At that point, he began to run up the road to find help.

It is a pity that there had been no UFO connected with this encounter, and therefore it is open to speculation.

- UFO Research, Qld Newsletter, Apr-May, 1978.

Parkhurst, Qld., June 1, 1978:

"Whatever it was, or where it came from we do not know, but it would appear its makers have more scientific knowledge than we have".

This is the opinion of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Brady of Parkhurst, who sighted "it" while out driving last Thursday night. The Bradys with their three small children left their home in Jones Street, Parkhurst, about 7 p.m. and were travelling along the four mile road towards Kawana. When near the igloos there was a bright flash of light like a street light being turned on. It was bright enough to light up the interior of the car. They then noticed something with six lights like portholes hovering above the trees.

The object was about 200 feet from the car. At first they thought it was a helicopter, but as their car turned a corner they noticed two lights on the side and these seemed to turn toward them and follow them. They stopped their car, and as they did so, another car approached and the object moved backwards and upwards until it became like an orange star in the sky. They stopped again a little further on and they could still see an orange glow in the sky. They estimated it was about 15 minutes from when they first sighted the object.

Mrs. Brady said her husband had been curious to get a closer look at the object, but she was scared stiff and just wanted to get away. They told relatives about the incident but were a bit afraid to speak out before because they thought no one would believe them. After reading a report in Wednesday's paper about a "sighting" at Joskeleigh, they decided to phone "The Morning Bulletin".

- Rockhampton Morning Bulletin, 9/6/1978.

Meadows, S.A., June 22, 1978:

Last Thursday evening Adam Johnson, an eleventh year student at Blackwood High School, who lives in Kangarilla, sighted a UFO. He was travelling on the Meadows to Echunga road with his mother when he saw a large cigar shaped object hovering 30 or 40 feet above the ground. It had lights at either end and was vibrating violently. He rolled down the window to make sure it was not a reflection and the object remained in view. It travelled with the car for several seconds before shooting off at high speed into the clouds.

- Strathalbyn Argus, 29/6/1978.

Mummballup, W.A., July 31, 1978:

Two men claim that they were paced by an UFO when returning home to Collie one evening this week. The men, who declined to have their names published, saw the object about 8.30 p.m. on Monday when travelling along the Wilga - Donnybrook road, about 28 km from Collie. They claimed that the object paced their vehicle along the road. When they turned into the Collie-Mummballup road, some 20 km from Collie, the object followed. The object continued to pace the car, and at the Glen Mervyn Dam, some 10 km from Collie, the men stopped the car. At this stage the object appeared to hover, got bigger and brighter and made it possible to determine that it was rectangular in shape. The men restarted the car and continued towards Collie. On the outskirts of the town the men noticed the object drop back. They turned around and again travelled back towards Glen Mervyn Dam. The men say that they saw the object fade out of sight. The men say that the object, which was a deep orange in colour, has convinced them that UFOs do exist...

- Perth Sunday Times, 6/8/1978.

Lake Sorell, Tas., Aug. 5, 1978:

(Mr. K. Roberts of TUFOIC) said a Hobart family of five had made a full report about a sighting of moving lights on Saturday night and another Hobart group had reported seeing a "brown cigar shaped object" over Lake Crescent on Saturday morning. Lake Crescent adjoins Lake Sorell. The family of three adults and two teenage children were staying in a shack at Interlaken on the shores of Lake Sorell. They know the area well. About 9.50 p.m. on Saturday they saw a glow to the north of the Tunbridge Road behind a hill, but were unable to see its source. Within a matter of minutes the whole area was lit up and at the same time a small white light appeared in the trees in the same direction. The small light moved up and down and back and forth over an estimated distance of from 2 - 4 km. The light lasted for about 20 minutes to half an hour when the small light appeared to "switch off" and the glow faded but reappeared to the south over Lake Crescent before finally disappearing. Mr. Roberts said yesterday the sighting had been one of the most interesting in Tasmania for some time. "I'll be surprised if we can find an explanation for this sighting", he said...

- Launceston Examiner, 12/8/1978.

OVERSEAS NEWSFind a Martian - and Win a Million

A reward of \$1.6 million has been offered to the first person to come up with a space ship from another world. The offer has been made by a British company which says it is looking for positive proof that we are not alone in space. According to Mr. Russ Taylor, a director of the Cutty Sark company, the offer is genuine.

"We're very serious about this", he said after announcing the reward. "A considerable body of scientific opinion is convinced that we are not alone in the universe". Just in case anyone does come up with a flying saucer, Cutty Sark has taken out thousands of dollars of insurance with Lloyd's of London against paying out.

To claim the \$1.6 million you have to come up with a space ship which has transported extraterrestrial beings to earth, an unmanned reconnaissance vehicle, a missile or an artifact. All entries will be judged by a panel of experts from the London Science Museum.

For those who can't track down a flying saucer there is a prize of \$1600 for the best scientific paper on flying saucers, another \$1650 for the best selection of items to be included in a space capsule to show other beings about earth. There is also a prize of \$800 for the best research into UFO sightings recorded in the logs of nineteenth century sailing ships.

Cutty Sark was the company that offered a \$1.6 million reward for evidence of the Loch Ness monster. So far that prize has remained unclaimed... - Sydney Sunday Telegraph, 4/6/1978.

Knock, Knock...

The area around Frome in Somerset has been designated the "Piccadilly Circus of British UFO traffic" and was recently the scene of the first British UFO conference. Some 150 keen ufologists descended on Frome to be told that skywatchers have achieved an amazing catalogue of blurs, white blobs, red balls and other sightings in the area, particularly at Cradle Hill in nearby Warminster. One of the most frequent sightings on Cradle Hill is an orange ball of light called the "amber gambler". Conference organiser Barry Gooding believes it to be the origin of the mysterious "9 o'clock bumps" widely heard in the south of England for the past 12 months, and mistakenly attributed to Concorde. - Hobart Saturday Evening Mercury, 1/7/1978.

UFO Was No Train!

Buenos Aires, Today - The man in charge of an Argentine railroad station was hospitalised in a state of shock today after signalling the arrival of a UFO instead of the expected freight train. Felipe Orozco said a strange object flew over the station shortly before midnight, illuminating it with bright light, and he fled from the signal tower to his office, where domestic animals also took refuge. It was after he failed to open a switch for the freight train that the train's engineer found him in a shocked state in the office. The apparition was at Remblon in Mendoza Province, 1100 km west of Buenos Aires, where two single UFOs were sighted in February and March by many people, and three flotillas of them also were seen over three cities in May. - Saturday Evening Mercury, 15/7/1978.

Rivals Join as UFO Watchers

New York, Sat. - A US group is joining with scholars in the Soviet Union for an out-of-this-world venture - investigating unidentified flying objects. The Centre for UFO Studies, created by UFO expert Dr. J. Allen Hynek, has established contact with Soviet researchers, and evidence on UFO cases is already being swapped. "Some of the people in Russia are cooperating with us by giving us information", Mr. Sherman J. Larsen of the Centre said. The centre's "hotline" is being employed in a data exchange to test a theory advanced by statistical analyst Dr. David Saunders, a member of Hynek's brains trust. Using the centre computer facility, Saunders predicted that a "flap" of UFOs would sweep over the Soviet Ural Mountains in December, 1977. - Perth Sunday Times, 20/8/1978.

UFOs Spotted at Nuclear Bases and Missile Sites

Mysterious UFOs flew near or hovered over nuclear bomb storage areas of two Strategic Air Command (SAC) bases and near at least ten missile sites during a three weekend period in 1975, The Enquirer has learned. Several times the Air Force scrambled jet fighters and helicopters to chase down the UFOs but failed to intercept them.

One pursuing helicopter was guided to within 1000 feet of a UFO hovering over a SAC base, but the men aboard said they couldn't see the intruder object - even though men on the ground could see both craft. In several instances the mysterious UFOs were first reported to be helicopters, but an Air Force spokesman admitted : "The overflights were not identified as helicopters. Unsuccessful attempts were made to trace the craft". The Enquirer uncovered these UFO sightings by digging through official Air Force documents available under the Freedom of Information Act.

On October 27, 28 and 31, 1975, a UFO invaded the security of Loring Air Force Base in Limestone, Maine, hovering over the weapons storage area. The first night the UFO was seen visually for 35 minutes and tracked on radar for 40 minutes more. The next night the object hovered only 150 feet over the weapons storage area. A helicopter was sent up and flew to within 1000 feet of the UFO - but the crew could not see it.

On October 30, a UFO was also seen over the weapons storage area of another SAC base, Wurtsmith Air Force Base at Oscoda, Mich. It was tracked by an Air Force plane on radar. Later the plane's crew reported "visual contact" with two UFOs. But as the plane approached the UFOs they sped off.

On November 7, officers at a Minuteman missile launch control facility near Lewistown, Mont., were startled to see a large UFO with red and white lights hovering 10 to 15 feet off the ground. The next night, after a UFO was spotted at eight missile sites in Montana, two F-106 jet fighters were scrambled. But as the jets got close to the UFOs, their lights went out - then went on again when the jets left.

On November 10, a bright object the size of a car passed silently 1000 to 2000 feet above a radar station at an Air Defense Command installation, Monot Air Force Station, Max, N. Dak. Three people saw it, the Air Force reported. Two days later, November 12, AF HQ in Washington, replying to a question from the North American Air Defense (NORAD) HQ in Colorado Springs, Col., regarding "unknown air activity", instructed NORAD and SAC on how to handle queries about the sightings. The message said, in part: "Unless there is evidence which links sightings or unless media queries link sightings, queries can best be handled individually at the source and as questions arise. Responses should ... emphasize that the action was taken in response to an isolated or specific incident".

Thus, newsmen inquiring about UFO incidents at one base were not told about similar incidents at other bases.

- National Enquirer, 13/12/1977, reprinted from Qld UFO Research Newsletter, Feb-Mar 78

Intense Activity Continues in New Zealand

New Zealand publications indicate that the heavy UFO activity in that country late last year (see May Bulletin for reports) continued well into the early months of 1978. In particular, the Gisborne area was experiencing its most intense period of UFO activity in NZ history. The following are a selection of the reports, reprinted from the magazines Xenolog and Spaceview:

Rodney & Waitemata Times, 1/2/78: ...A young couple living in an isolated area outside Warkworth had seen a number of coloured lights flitting around on successive nights. The husband stood at his back door on this occasion and flashed his torch at one of the lights. The light apparently descended, to land 50 metres away in a paddock. It was round and saucer shaped, silver in colour, and glowing. There were also blinking lights to be seen. A door then opened and a tall person appeared, standing in the doorway. He turned several times to show himself, and the witnesses thought he was 2 to 2.3 metres tall. The husband waved to the "man", who waved back, the door then closed and the craft rose to about 15 metres and took off. (Spaceview)

Gisborne Herald, 16/3/78: The closest encounter yet in the Gisborne flap has been described as a "terrifying experience" by a visitor to the district. A mill worker at Kawerau was driving back to Gisborne early in the morning last Sunday (March 12) when he came as close as 16 metres to a huge UFO. This sighting was reported to the Aerial Phenomena Research Group and one of their investigators spent over an hour closely questioning the witness. As yet no explanation of the sighting has been found.

"I was driving along the Waerenga -a-Hika straight when a brilliant orange light lit up the interior of my car", the man said. "I looked out the window and got the shock of my life. Outside, just about 50 feet away, was a large oval object floating alongside my car. I was looking at the back of it and that part was the size of a three storey building", he said.

"I drove around the road and I could see the full length of the object. In my estimation it would have been about the size of the five storey Government Life building. I was very shocked as I watched it rise in the sky to about 300 or 400 feet", he said. "The object was coloured orange and had thousands of small lights in the side of it. All I could do was watch it. It made no noise and it seemed to float along at ease".

"I have driven many times at night and I am used to seeing strange lights and things of this nature, but I have never seen anything like that before. I never want to see anything like that again. When I first sighted it I thought it could have been a maize harvester or something like that, but it was not".

The A.P.R.G. said sightings of unusual lights in the district have been occurring every night this week. Earlier last Saturday night (March 11), four witnesses in the Waimata Valley gave chase to a red, green and white object.

"We came into the Valley at about 8.30 p.m. and sighted several red pulsating lights in the distance", said one witness. "At 9.40 p.m. we sighted our first red and green top hat-shaped object about 300 feet away from us. It was about 30 feet in diameter. We were very excited and did not take much notice of the object itself. At about 10.30 p.m. we saw some more red pulsating lights in the hills further in the distance", she said. "Then, at 10.40, we sighted another top hat-shaped object with red and green lights in the distance, so we decided to give chase. Two of us dashed to the bottom of the hill and jumped into the car and drove after it", she said. "As we got closer we climbed out and ran towards it. By this time it was only 100 feet away. But as we approached, the object's lights went out so we could not see it. We went back to the hill from where we were looking and we could see the object again, so we went and chased it again, but we lost it"... (Xenolog)

Rodney & Waimata Times, 12/4/78: A close encounter with a UFO has left two young Dairy Flat women amazed and troubled. Miss Gaylene Roberts, of Wilkes Road, and Miss Bernice Ewin, of Horse Shoe Bush Road, are certain that they were followed by a UFO on the evening of Thursday, March 30. At one point, they believe, the object was only a few yards away.

The two were driving home along Massey Road after visiting a friend at Kaukapakapa and were two or three miles beyond the intersection with the road to Helensville when they noticed lights in the sky. It was about 8.30 and quite dark and they thought it must be a plane returning to the North Shore Aero Club. But as they continued along the road the object descended until it was directly to their right and about 200 yards away in a paddock.

"We looked out of the window straight at it", said Gaylene. "All we could see were the lights. They were red and white and spinning round. When the thing hovered the lights were red and green. They weren't flashing".

The object moved to a point ahead of the girls and then over the road and came towards the car. "We were really scared", recalls Gaylene, who was driving. "I braked but Bernice said to keep on driving".

When the thing appeared to be only a few yards in front of them it shot off to the left where it hovered for a short time. Then it followed a course parallel to the car for a mile or two until the girls approached Falloon's store at the intersection of Massey Road and State Highway 1 where it moved quickly away in the direction of Silverdale and Orewa.

The girls estimated the object was in their sight for 10 to 15 minutes. They did not really see any shape or size but had an impression of a smallish cigar shaped object. There were no other cars on the road at the time...

...The sighting on March 30 was reported to the Orewa Police who would like to hear any confirmation or explanation of the girls' experience. (Xenolog)

Auckland Star, 3/4/78: Two dark figures in a wedge shaped object, hovering about 200 metres in the air ... that's how Ms Lee Robinson of East Coast Bays describes what she saw last night. Ms Robinson was travelling along Sunset Rd. about 8.30 p.m. on her way to Henderson, when she saw lights flashing in the distance. She stopped her motorcycle and watched the lights come closer.

"I thought a star had exploded. But the lights seemed to revolve, like a lighthouse", she said. As the lights came closer she could make out the wedge shape - like a door wedge, broad at the front and narrow at the back. She also noticed two red lights and a green light. About 200 metres from her, the object stopped and Ms Robinson says she clearly saw two figures peering down at her.

"It was as if they had come to see what I was doing", she said. "I could see the figures from the waist up. I could make out two heads and it looked as if they were wearing dark robes".

Ms Robinson said she stared petrified for several minutes. Then a car appeared from the opposite direction and the object moved away. Ms Robinson continued to Henderson and telephoned the Whenuapai Air Base. They said they had no other reports of such a sighting. (Xenolog)

Auckland Star, 4/4/78: An UFO described as wedge shaped spent a leisurely weekend hovering over Auckland. At least that's what it would seem from reports made to The Star. On Sunday evening, a Brown's Bay resident, Ms Lee Robinson reported...(see story above)...said the front seemed to be covered in glass and she clearly saw two figures peering down at her. After reading that report in last night's Star, Mr. Wade Corlett phoned to say he had also seen the wedge shape on Friday evening. He was travelling home from Mt. Roskill dance with a friend, Mr. Bruce Kidd, when the two noticed a brilliant orange light in the sky.

"A police car overtook us and stopped near the Dominion Rd. and Stoddard Rd. intersection", said Mr. Corlett. "But they had already seen it and had stopped for a closer look". The four watched the object for several minutes. "It seemed to get smaller then bigger, then just faded away", said Mr. Corlett. The Star was unable to contact either of the policemen for comment.

A Glen Eden couple, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Griffin, also telephoned to say they had seen a bright green and white light about the same time as Ms Robinson's sighting. They were travelling along the West Coast Road on Sunday evening and watched the light move across the sky. "It seemed to come from the North Shore area and looked as if it was falling - like a star", said Mrs. Griffin... (Xenolog)

-Spaceview, No. 76; 67 Walworth Ave., Pakuranga, Auckland, N.Z.

-Xenolog, No. 115; 33 Dee St., Timaru, N.Z.

Official UFO File Released by Spanish Government

Following is the report on a presentation by Antonio Ribera, Spanish author and UFO researcher, at Italy's Second National Congress of Ufology (25, 26 June, 1977). Translated from the Italian magazine "Notiziario UFO", Jul-Dec, 1977, by Gloria Costello.

The 20th October, 1976, was one of the most important dates for Spanish ufology in particular, and for world ufology in general. For the first time the Spanish Government, through the auspices of Lt.-General Head of State (Aeronautical), Major Don Felipe Galarza, has officially made public a valid document comprising a total of 12 UFO cases recorded on Spanish territory in the last few years. A young journalist, Juan Jose Benitez, from the Bilbao newspaper "The Northern Gazette", was rewarded for his tenacity and for covering 150,000 km in investigating UFO cases on location.

Such information has remained buried in the archives of the Ministry of Aeronautics, and for the major part comes from specialist personnel, military pilots, control tower technicians, ground military personnel, etc. Some cases, such as those which will be the subject of this meeting, are sensational. This step by the Spanish Government is comparable for its importance with contents of the declaration given to the journalist Jean-Claude Bourret, from 'France-Inter' radio from Paris, by the French Minister for Defence, Mr. Robert Galley. (See Bulletin, Feb. 75)

Spain, by this important official step, will collaborate with six countries in the world who furnish concrete and irrefutable data on the presence of UFOs. The General Head of State gave to Juan Jose Benitez, on the handing over of the 78 sheets, his word of honour that:-

1. he would not reveal the names of the witnesses which appeared in the documentation,
2. he would not reveal - until officially authorised - the direct source of the information.

From the moment I am not personally involved in this business (meeting), I will reveal the names of the witnesses that I am able to through various sources - principally through my network of correspondents in Spain - inasmuch as some of the cases collected by the Ministry were made public - and also the official sources of information consigned to Benitez.

Owing to the lack of time at my disposal, it is impossible to refer to the 12 cases. I will limit myself to saying (before analysing in detail those which I consider the most important) that amongst those is one concerning the landing of a UFO in Poligono di Tiro di Las Bardenas Reales (Navarra) on the 2nd Jan., 1975. Three days later - the 5th Jan., the UFO reappeared at Poligono, giving rise to a new and detailed official report.

Another important case contained in the Ministry's file is that of the 24th November, 1974, when pilots from Iberian Airways from Las Palmas in the Canaries almost collided with a UFO which came directly at them (reported by military radar in the Grand Canaries).

Another declassified document (12 pages) is recorded from the verbatim transcript of the conversation between the two pilots of a military flight (Training Squad T-33) which was the first to locate the UFO, and two Sabres (F-86) were sent up in order to intercept the UFO. This encounter on the magnetic tape was jealously guarded for more than nine years by the Spanish Government from the moment the incident was verified on the 3rd June, 1967 in space by the First Aerial Region (Madrid Zone). The encounter had a total duration of one hour and 17 minutes. Attempts to approach the UFO failed - as is generally the case. The object was of metallic appearance, discoidal, and revolved intelligently.

The fourth documented case concerns an aerial phenomenon observed on the 14th January 1975 on the radar screen of the Flight School "Reaction". In this instance, clearly evidenced on the radar screens of the GCA of the school, the most impressive aspect was the fact that the UFO responded to the IFF code (Identification of friendly or unfriendly planes). In other words, to all appearances these unknown radar echoes simulated an identification like that in use by armies in Eastern countries (also if a little 'in their opinion'), selecting codes in use by the said Base, according to the contents of the informative report by the Lt. Colonel Commanding the Services Group signed the next day.

Among the cases declassified by the Aeronautics Ministry (in the 6th place) was the celebrated episode concerning the Andalusian commercial traveller, Mr. Adrian Sanchez, who caused quite a commotion. Mr. Sanchez saw an enormous spindle shaped craft resting on the ground at the border of the Aznalcollar community (Seville) on the 20th March, 1974. Out of this enormous object came a discoidal flying object which began to follow Mr. Sanchez in the stretch of land (26 km) which separates Aznalcollar from Castillo de las Guardas, where the witness arrived terrified in his Dyane Citroen car which was almost wrecked from having travelled at excessive speed on a bad road full of holes.

Official document No. 7. Witnesses were an instructor (captain) and a pupil, both on board a Mirage 111-DE jet with two commands, 40 miles from Valencia and at an altitude of 20,000 feet, observed the presence of a strange and powerful light on the left. The observation took place in perfect meteorological conditions and visibility. Date 26 Sep. 1973.

Report No. 8, which does not bear the "confidential" or "reserved" stamp, refers to the observation of an 'imaginary' brilliant mechanical object, made by some soldiers at 6 a.m. on 1st. Jan., 1975. The conclusions of the report, signed by the Lt. Col. Military Aeronautical Commander of the Military Airport of Villafria (Burgos) are negative; however the General Captaincy of the VI Military Region with HQ at Burgos published an Official Brief in which it affirmed that the observation effected by various soldiers of the Army Engineering Academy, of a flying object with a flattened cone form, emitting a strong white-yellow colour, suspended only a few metres from the ground, was totally authentic. The names of these soldiers were ... who were travelling in a Mini 850 from Burgos to Santander, where they verified the extraordinary encounter....

- Notiziario UFO, journal of Centro Ufologico Nazionale, Via Vignola 3, 20136 Milano, Italia.

* * * * *

ON THE STRANGE CASE OF DR. "X"

by Dr. G. Stevens.

Don Herbison-Evans (1) has recently invited examination of significant UFO sightings with the intention of seeking evidence for extraterrestrial visitation. One account which has impressed me with the thoroughness of the investigation and the detailed information that was gained concerning the appearance and behaviour of the UFOs involved is that reported by Aime Michel in FSR Special Issue No. 3 (2). Dr. "X" was an excellent witness and Michel was able to analyse the sighting in detail to gain quantitative information regarding the behaviour of the UFOs. He concentrates on the physical aspects of the case but alludes to some non-physical effects associated with the case.

Briefly, the sighting involves two disc shaped flying objects about 65 metres in diameter of identical appearance. They had a vertical antenna on a silvery white upper surface and two opposed horizontal antennae at the junction with a bright sunset red lower section. A cylindrical white light beam was emitted from a "ringed corona" at the base which illuminated the terrain and buildings below. The UFOs were initially quite close to each other and there was a cyclic luminous activity involving white flashes which were apparently absorbed at the extremities of each of the antennae and travelled inwards to the body of each object.

The UFOs were initially observed at a distance of about 2 km and travelling away from the witness. These two objects then rotated to face Dr. "X" with their horizontal antennae at each side of the object, and changed their course slightly towards him. The objects then merged to form one object which was of identical appearance to its predecessors except that he could detect a movement in the lower red section. The single object approached to within

about 200 metres of the witness and then stopped, allowing him to get a good view. The object then rotated to present the underside to Dr. "X" and bathe him within the spotlight. The object then dematerialised with a loud bang and a very fine white thread shot up into the air, forming a white shining dot which itself vanished with a sharp report.

Well, what are we to make of such an account? The objects appear to be real enough (e.g., the light beam illuminated the environment), but there are three aspects which indicate that they are not 'real' in our sense of the word.

1. The objects apparently interpenetrated each other and merged to form a single object.

2. The composite object disappeared by an apparent 'dematerialisation'.

3. The detail on the underside which became visible at close range did not obey the laws of perspective.

This detail consisted of black lines dividing the lower half of the disc into eleven visible sections. The sketch by the witness shows these lines originating at points equi-spaced around the junction with the top section (i.e. the rim) but sloping towards the outside of the lower surface, not towards the centre as would be expected from a radial pattern (which is what he perceived when the underside became visible). Five alternate sections formed by these lines were cyclically traversed from top to bottom by a dark horizontal line like lines that move across a TV screen when you are adjusting it.

While one could perhaps propose that here we have two alien scout ships that merged to form one, without the matter of each interacting and suitable accomodation immediately becoming available for both crews, prior to examining the witness and then vanishing by entering 'hyperspace', an alternative explanation seems at least as likely.

I propose that, in fact, only one scout ship was involved. This vehicle approached and examined Dr. "X" and then left, initially along the same path as the approach, but then deviating slightly from it. As it retreated, however, it moved backwards in time at the same rate as we perceive time to be moving forward.

The dematerialisation is thus readily explained and the apparent merging is interpreted as a departure of the object during its retreat from the course it took during the approach. The alteration of the perspective might then be due to an interference effect resulting from the supposition of the object travelling backwards in time on the same object in normal time. The movements observed in the lower section are indeed similar to the interference one observes on a TV screen when it is shown on another TV screen. If this interpretation is correct then one can conclude that matter travelling at a different rate of time does not interact with matter in the normal time stream, a fact which must give the occupants of such craft a great deal of comfort.

References: (1) D. Herbison-Evans; "Extraterrestrials on Earth", ACOS Bulletin No. 13, March 1978, p.3.

(2) A. Michel; "The Strange Case of Dr. 'X'", FSR Special Issue No. 3, Aug., 1969, p.3.

- ACOS Bulletin No. 14, Jun. 78.

ANOTHER MENACE IN THE SKY

Coincidence or correlation? I find it difficult to resolve whether a pattern exists or not. April 2: a streak of bright light descends upon Lance Cove, Newfoundland (see "Menace From the Sky", Bulletin, May, 1978); April 4: a radio begins to glow before a light floods a kitchen in Victoria, BC, followed by an aerial explosion; then, April 6: Ms A had bedded down six horses on her property near Prince George, BC, on the night of April 6, last. What happened in the next four hours was an experience of horror and menace.

Returning from the barn about 7.30 to 7.45 p.m., Ms A saw a flash of light descend from above at a very steep angle. It was not a flash like 'lightning', but the moving descent of a 'straight beam of light', likened to a sunbeam of white light. This was seen over her shoulder, and at the same time a scream came out from the stables. "She had never in all her life heard any horse let out such a type of moise". The 'beam of light' was lost from sight as she raced back to the barn to see what had happened to the horses. "She entered the barn and found the following: one of the younger horses was down on the stall floor in a kneeling position with both hind legs entrapped through the plywood siding of the stall. In the next stall another horse was down and found to be unconscious. On examination she discovered two unexplained bare patches like all the hair had been torn out or burned off. A third horse was attempting to get away from its stall and finally tore loose and went charging around the barn as though scared to death", says the RCMP teletype report. When the veterinarians were contacted for their conclusion: "Quote, couldn't believe their condition, unquote". Even the investigating RCMP made a special reference to an extremely unusual localisation: "Note - three other horses in the barn (opposite side) were not affected or frightened at all". I find that very hard to believe, for how can stablemates not be affected when their companions become the victims of some nameless horror?

...After trying to calm the excited horse and checking to see what condition the others were in, she went back to her house and phoned her mother to come over. Also, she telephoned a neighbour who owned one of the horses asking them to come over and help her with the horses.

...Before this party arrived Ms A and her mother saw an unusual light in the sky. "It was a round misty yellow light", about a third the size of the moon and about the same altitude as an airplane in flight. "It hovered, turned, lights off and on, went up and down, backwards and sideways", according to the RCMP teletype report. The mother, against the desires of Ms A, telephoned the local radio station to report the UFO and the strange beam of light which had terrified the horses. When Mrs. B and her party arrived and started to walk the horses, the mother said, "Look, there it is". And they looked up to see what looked like a satellite which hovered and moved through the night sky.

In another section of Prince George, Mr. C was driving to his father-in-law's house when he saw a UFO. A bluish white light was in the sky, then it disappeared for about 15 seconds, and then a flashing coloured light appeared

which was "red on the ends of the object and orange on the bottom". It was stationary and emitted no noise. He hastened to inform the local residents that there was a UFO to be seen outside. Looking through a telescope, he "saw it was a disc shaped object". While it was in view for an hour's time, five people saw the UFO either through the telescope or a telescopic rifle scope. Mr. C called CFS Baldy Hughes to ask them if they could see the UFO on their radar, but it wasn't until the second call that the military responded to the UFO. "I called twice, the second time they stated they could see the object". Then it moved behind a hill and was lost to sight. On the radio he heard some horses were struck by a beam of light from a UFO in the area and drove off in search of the UFO's other encounter. He stopped at the house of the couple visiting Mrs. B where he was directed to the home of Ms A, where he viewed the stricken horses....

- Res Bureaux Bulletin, June 15, 1978,
Box 1598, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 5C8, Canada.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It has been rather a disappointment to the Committee that several of the Society's recent public meetings have not attracted better attendances. This is somewhat surprising in view of the increased media coverage our subject has lately been receiving in various ways, and in view of the fact that at recent meetings the Society has been fortunate in being able to present such quality speakers as Dr. Clifford Wilson, Biblical scholar and author of "Crash Go The Chariots"; and Dr. P. J. Bicknell, Reader in Classical Studies at Monash University, who presented an excellent lecture on the subject of UFO research in ancient literature.

At the Annual General Meeting on August 11, the Society was again able to present a particularly interesting agenda. The two guest speakers were both UFO witnesses: the first was Mr. Gary Price, who gave a long and detailed description of his strange experience near Armidale, NSW, on Jan 10, 1978 (reported in Feb. Bulletin, p. 5); and the second was Mr. Jock Bell, who described his experience of 1935, when, as a merchant navyman during a voyage off the West African coast, he observed a huge unidentified object floating in the sea. Another item at the meeting was the playing of portions of the new record, "UFOs - The Credibility Factor" (not yet available in Australia), containing interviews with the astronauts and other American UFO experts and witnesses.

In addition to, or possibly as a replacement for, meetings of this type in a large expensive hall, the Society has been considering the possibility of holding smaller, more informal meetings for members in private homes. Offers have already been received from several members willing to accommodate such a meeting, and if support could come from more offers, gatherings could be held on a more frequent basis, moving around to different areas. In this way, too, members would have more frequent access to the library. Any member who could accommodate one such meeting is asked to write to the Society, or contact Mrs. Magee on 922502. All that is required is a room to accommodate no more than 20 people, plus hot water to make the coffee.

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